

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 236828 TOSEC 270692

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM USUN NEW YORK DATED SEPTEMBER 23,
1976 SENT SECSTATE WASHDC INFO DAR ES SALAAM, LUSAKA, MAPUTO,
PRETORIA IS REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3921

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, US, MZ

SUBJ: 31ST UNGA: GOVERNOR SCRANTON MEETING WITH MOZAMBIQUE
FOREIGN MINISTER

REF: USUN 3833

1. AT OUR INTIATIVE, GOVERNOR SCRANTON AND MISOFFS MET
FOR 30 MINUTES THIS MORNING (SEPT 23) WITH MOZAMBIQUE
FOREIGN MINISTER CHISSANO AND PERMREP LOBO. GOVERNOR EXPRESSED
HIS SATISFACTION AT RELEASE OF REV. DOLL (REFTEL) AND
STRESSED THAT GRANT AGREEMENT WITH GPRM MUST BE SIGNED NO
LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 30. CHISSANO, WHO SAID HE HAS SPENT
MOST OF RECENT WEEKS IN EASTERN EUROPE, WAS BROUGHT UP TO
DATE ON STATUS OF BOTH \$10 MILLION AND PL 480 PORTIONS
OF ORIGINAL \$12.5 MILLION COMMITMENT.

2. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, CHISSANO SAID
-- HE HAD BEEN AWAY FROM MOZAMBIQUE DURING PERIOD OF
SECRETARY'S MISSION SOUTHERN AFRICA AND WAS THUS NOT UP
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ON DETAILS AND COULD NOT GIVE APPRAISAL;

-- RECENT DAR-ES-SALAAM SUMMIT WAS USEFUL. IT WAS NOT ABLE, OF COURSE, TO BRING ANC LEADERSHIP TOGETHER, AND SITHOLE APPEARS HAVE BECOME COMPLETELY IRRELEVANT. BECAUSE OF THIS, HOWEVER, IT HAS HAD EFFECT OF MAKING RANK AND FILE OF NATIONALIST GROUPS AWARE THAT NEW LEADERSHIP MUST BE THRUST UP. IN SEPARATE COMMENT, HE APPEARED CONSIDER NKOMO IRRELEVANT AS WELL, NOTING THAT BOTH HE AND SITHOLE HAD SPENT TOO MANY YEARS IN PRISON. HE DID NOT CONSIDER MUZOREWA WORTH DISCUSSING, AND MADE NO MENTION OF MUGABE.

-- ON NAMIBIA, CHISSANO INDICATED BELIEF NO REAL PROGRESS COULD BE MADE UNTIL SWAPO BROUGHT FULLY INTO PICTURE. GOVERNOR SCRANTON NOTED PRESS REPORTS REGARDING SECRETARY'S INTENT TO MEET WITH NUJOMA AFTER HIS RETURN TO US. CHISSANO THEN INDICATED HIS BELIEF SITUATION IN NAMIBIA MAY WELL PARALLEL THAT OF MOZAMBIQUE. HE EQUATED SWAPO'S CURRENT SITUATION WITH THAT OF FRELIMO BEFORE PORTUGUESE APRIL 1974 COUP. HE SPECULATED THAT, AS A "NATIONAL" RATHER THAN TRIBAL MOVEMENT, SWAPO MIGHT WELL PROVE ABLE TO EXERT CONSIDERABLE AUTHORITY THROUGHOUT NAMIBIA -- AS FRELIMO DID IN MOZAMBIQUE -- WHEN IT IS ACKNOWLEDGED BY SOUTH AFRICA. HE ASKED ABOUT SERIOUSNESS OF TRIBAL DIVISIONS IN NAMIBIA AND, CONTINUING COMPARISON WITH MOZAMBIQUE, SPECULATED THAT THERE MIGHT WELL BE TRIBAL CONFLICTS IN BOTH NAMIBIA AND RHODESIA FOR SOME TIME AFTER INDEPENDENCE.

3. CHISSANO SAID HE IS SCHEDULED SPEAK TO UNGA OCTOBER 5 AND PLANS LEAVE NEW YORK AROUND OCTOBER 8. HE AGREED WITH GOVERNOR SCRANTON ON DESIRABILITY OF FURTHER EXCHANGES, PARTICULARLY INCLUDING WITH SECRETARY, AT SOME TIME BEFORE CHISSANO'S DEPARTURE FOR MOZAMBIQUE.
BEMNETT
UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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